



R0811

Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance into the National Fire Academy's Volunteer Incentive Program *Fire Cause Determination for Company Officers* (FCDCO) course. We look forward to your arrival, and hope to provide you with a rewarding learning experience. The materials in this course will address the basic skills needed to conduct initial fire cause determinations.

To assist in your preparation needs, you should review the following: NFPA 921, *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*, 2011 Edition and NFPA 1033, *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigators*, 2009 Edition.

It is important to note that this is a 6-day class, and the first day of class will begin on Sunday at approximately 8 a.m. Subsequent classes will meet daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with graduation occurring on Friday at 4 p.m. End-of-class graduation ceremonies are an important part of the course, and you are expected to attend. Please do not make any travel arrangements to leave campus until after you and your classmates graduate.

The course materials for this course are now available in a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) format. If you own a laptop computer, a Nook, or another similar electronic tablet and are familiar with its document reader functions, we are asking you to download the Student Manual (SM) **before you travel to Emmitsburg** and bring the preloaded device with you. Please see the next page for complete instructions on successfully downloading your course materials.

Increasing numbers of students and instructors are bringing laptop computers or other electronic devices to campus. You alone are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The Academy cannot provide you with computer software, hardware, or technical support to include disks, printers, scanners, etc. There are a limited number of 120 volt AC outlets in the classrooms. Thumb drives or external hard drives used to bring course materials to class cannot be connected to FEMA property without being scanned for viruses. Due to time limitations for scanning, these devices cannot be larger than 8 GB. Anything over this amount will not be scanned and cannot be used. A Student Computer Lab is located in Building D and is available for all students to use. It is open daily with technical support provided in the evenings. This lab uses Windows 7 and Office 2010 as the software standard.

Should you need additional information related to course content or requirements, please feel free to contact the Response Section Branch Chief, Mr. Loney Nunemaker, Fire/Arson and Explosion Investigation Curriculum Training Specialist, at (301) 447-1341 or email at loney.nunemaker@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent
National Fire Academy
U.S. Fire Administration

National Fire Academy Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Pilot Course Materials/Download Instructions

The **first step** is to download ADOBE Reader to your device. This will enable you to read and manipulate the course materials. ADOBE Reader can be used to comment and highlight text in Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. It is an excellent tool for note-taking purposes.

For Laptops and Computers

ADOBE Reader can be downloaded from www.adobe.com/downloads/. It is a free download. Please note that depending on your settings, you may have to temporarily disable your antivirus software.

For Tablets and Other Similar Hand-Held Devices

ADOBE Reader can be downloaded onto devices such as iPads, android tablets, and other hand-held devices. ADOBE Reader for these types of devices can be found in the device's Application Store using the search function and typing in "ADOBE Reader." Follow the instructions given. **It is a free application.** Note: In order to have the editing capabilities/toolbar, the document needs to be "opened with ADOBE Reader." There should be a function on your device to do this.

After you have successfully downloaded the ADOBE Reader, please use the following Web link to download your R0811, *Fire Cause Determination for Company Officers* (FCDCO) Student Manual (SM). (You may have to copy/paste this link into your Web browser.)

http://nfa.usfa.dhs.gov/ax/sm/sm_r0811.pdf

Note: Please make sure you download the ADOBE Reader first. To open the SM, you will need to open the ADOBE Reader and then open the SM through the ADOBE Reader in order for the note-taking tools to work properly.

If you need assistance, please contact nfaonlinehelp@fema.dhs.gov.